from Western Sky Financial, LLC ("Western Sky") between May 2011 and

26

1 /

September 2013.

- b. Respondent Company purchased the Loans previous to being licensed by the Department.
- c. Each of the Loans was purchased shortly after being originated by Western Sky, who is not and has never been licensed by the Department.
- d. Respondent Company has been charging and collecting interest on the Loans as

follows:

Loan Amount		Interest Rate Charged per Annum	Number of Loans
\$	850.00	169%	8
\$	1,500.00	120-149%	28
\$	2,600.00	135%	392
\$	5,075.00	115%	69
\$	10,000.00	89%	24

- e. The total amount of interest on the Loans to be charged and received by Respondent Company, assuming regular monthly payments to maturity, is estimated to be between eight million dollars (\$8,000,000.00) and ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00), with the majority of that being interest in excess of thirty-six percent (36%) per annum.
- f. The total amount of principal to be repaid on the Loans is approximately one million six hundred thousand dollars (\$1,600,000.00).
- g. The origination fees associated with the Loans totaled approximately fifty-three thousand one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$53,175.00).

LAW

1. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-601 et seq., the Superintendent has the authority and duty to

regulate all persons engaged in the consumer lender business and with the enforcement of statutes, rules and regulations relating to consumer lenders.

- 2. Respondent Company's conduct set forth in the Findings of Fact constitutes violations of the following statutes governing consumer lenders:
 - a. A.R.S. § 6-613(A)(1) and (2) which state "[e]xcept as the result of an accidental or bona fide error, if the licensee *charges*, *contracts for or receives any amount in excess*

of the finance charges¹ and other fees permitted by this chapter the following restrictions apply: 1. If the original principal amount of a consumer loan is five thousand dollars or less, that consumer loan is voidable and the licensee has no right to collect or receive any principal, finance charges or other fees in connection with that consumer loan. 2. If the original principal amount of a consumer loan is more than five thousand dollars, the licensee has no right to collect or receive any finance charges in connection with that consumer loan [emphasis added]." Respondent Company has been charging and receiving interest on the Loans in excess of those finance charges allowed under Arizona law.

b. A.R.S. § 6-613(B) which states "[a]ny consumer lender loan that is made by a person who is required to be licensed pursuant to this chapter but who is not licensed is void, and the person making that consumer lender loan has no right to collect, receive or retain any principal, finance charges or other fees in connection with that consumer lender loan [emphasis added]." Furthermore, A.R.S. § 6-603(B) states "[t]his chapter [Consumer Lenders] applies to any person who seeks to avoid its application by any

A licensee may contract for and receive finance charges...that are not more than the following amounts: 1. On a consumer loan...of three thousand dollars or less, a consumer loan rate of thirty-six per cent. 2. On a consumer loan...of more than three thousand dollars, either: (a)...thirty-six per cent on the initial three thousand dollars of the original principal amount, and a consumer loan rate of twenty-four per cent on that part of the principal amount greater than three thousand dollars; (b) The single blended consumer loan rate that results from the total amount of finance charges that the licensee would receive through the scheduled maturity of the consumer loan at the consumer loan rates that otherwise would be applicable pursuant to subdivision (a) of this paragraph to the different portions of the unpaid principal balance, assuming that the consumer loan will be paid according to its agreed terms." A.R.S. § 6-632(A).

device, subterfuge or pretense." Respondent Company has collected and received principal, finance charges and origination fees on the Loans despite such being void by statute.

3. The violations, set forth above, constitute grounds for: (1) the issuance of an order under A.R.S. § 6-137 directing Respondents to cease and desist from the violative conduct and to take the appropriate affirmative actions, within a reasonable period of time prescribed by the Superintendent, to correct the conditions resulting from the unlawful acts, practices, and transactions; (2) the imposition of a civil monetary penalty under A.R.S. § 6-132; and (3) an order or any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating consumer lenders pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-601 *et seq*.

ORDER

- 1. Respondents shall immediately cease and desist from committing the violations set forth in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
- 2. Respondents shall pay to the Department a civil money penalty in the amount of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) ("Civil Penalty") by October 6, 2017.
 - 3. Respondents are jointly and severally liable for payment of the civil money penalty.
- 4. Respondents shall comply with all Arizona statutes and rules regulating Arizona consumer lenders (A.R.S. §§ 6-601, et seq.).
- 5. The provisions of this Order shall be binding upon Respondents, their employees, agents, and other persons participating in the conduct of the affairs of Respondent Company.

SO ORDERED this 28TH day of JEPTEMBER, 2017.

Robert D. Charlton, Superintendent Department of Financial Institutions

By: Ron Doba, Division Manager

Financial Services

Department of Financial Institutions

CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER

- 1. Respondents acknowledge that they have been served with a copy of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order in the above-referenced matter, have read the same, are aware of their right to an administrative hearing in this matter, and have waived the same. Respondents do not admit to the foregoing legal findings.
- 2. Respondents accept the jurisdiction of the Superintendent and consent to the entry of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.
- 3. Respondents state that no promise of any kind or nature has been made to induce them to consent to the entry of this Order, and that they have done so knowingly, willfully, and voluntarily.
- 4. Respondents agree to immediately cease from engaging in the violative conduct set forth in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
- 5. Respondents acknowledge that the acceptance of this Consent to Entry of Order by the Superintendent is solely to settle this matter, which includes any other loans made to Arizona consumers that Respondent Company purchased from Western Sky and collected on.
- 6. With respect to the Department's regulation and enforcement authority under Title 6 of the A.R.S., the Department agrees and acknowledges that execution of this Consent Order, including payment of the Civil Penalty, hereby releases and discharges Respondent Company, its predecessors and successors in interest, assignees, nominees, and its past, present, and future subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, officers, directors, employees, stockholders, attorneys, servants, representatives, partners, agents, authorized dealers, and liability insurers (in their capacities as such), as well as John Paul Reddam, from any and all existing or potential liability for claims and findings relating to the conduct asserted in this Consent Order. However, this does not preclude this Department, any other agency or officer of this state or subdivision thereof from instituting other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 7. Failure to correct the violations set forth above in this Order or any future findings of repeat violations may result in disciplinary action that may include a greater civil money penalty.

	N		
1	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this		
2	Robert D. Charlton, Superintendent		
3	ATTN: June Beckwith Arizona Department of Financial Institutions		
4	2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310		
5	Phoenix, AZ 85018 JBeckwith@azdfi.gov		
6	COPY mailed/delivered same date to:		
7	Shane Foster, Assistant Attorney General		
8	Office of the Attorney General 1275 West Washington		
9	Phoenix, AZ 85007 Shane.Foster@azag.gov		
10			
11	Ron Doba, Division Manager Tawnya Webel, Examiner-in-Charge		
12	ATTN: Linda Lutz Arizona Department of Financial Institutions		
13	2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310		
14	Phoenix, AZ 85018 <u>LLutz@azdfi.gov</u>		
15	COPY MAILED SAME DATE by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:		
16			
17	John Paul Reddam, President CashCall, Inc.		
18	One City Boulevard West, Suite 102 Orange, CA 92868		
19	Respondents		
20	Joseph L. Barloon Austin K. Brown		
21	Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP		
22	1440 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005 Joseph.Barloon@skadden.com Austin.Brown@skadden.com		
23			
24	Attorneys for Respondents		
25			
26			
20			